

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 22 of page 2 and ending at line 3 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph.*

In using the blood sugar measuring instrument described in Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-309905, first, a chip ~~provide~~ provided with a test paper is mounted to an instrument body, and a fingertip is pressed against the tip end of the chip so as to seal the tip end opening in a gas-tight manner.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 20 of page 13 with the following amended paragraph.*

In addition, the cover ~~30~~ 20 is turnably supported on a distal end portion (upper portion) of the body 2 through a shaft (rotating shaft) 213.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 22 of page 22 and ending at line 6 of page 23 with the following amended paragraph.*

In addition, the passage opening 191 is formed near a proximal portion of the blood introduction guide 166. Therefore, the blood received by the blood introduction guide 166 is efficiently guided through the passage opening 191 into the blood passage 19. The blood reaches the passage opening 192 by ~~capillarity~~ capillary action, is supplied to a central portion of the test paper 18 disposed so as to cover the passage opening 192, and is developed radially on the test paper 18.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 17 of page 26 and ending at line 2 of page 27 with the following amended paragraph.*

Of the contact part 3, the surface fronting on the opening 30 constitutes a pressed surface (inner surface) 31 against which the blood sampled portion 900 is pressed. The pressed surface 31 is tilted at a substantially constant angle ( $\theta$  in Fig. 3) so as to ~~near~~ become nearer to the center axis of the opening 212 of the body 2 as the opening 212 is approached. In other words, the pressed surface 31 is in the shape of a side surface of a truncated cone (the shape of a portion exclusive of a top portion of a conical surface).

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 23 of page 27 and ending at line 9 of page 28 with the following amended paragraph.*

Such an effect is sufficiently displayed by lightly putting the side portion of the hand onto the contact part 3. Particularly, the component measuring apparatus 1 in this embodiment is of the vertical installation type, so that the effect is sufficiently displayed by lightly placing the hand on the contact part 3. Therefore, at the time of measuring the blood sugar level, it is ~~needless~~ not necessary to regulate the force with which the side portion of the hand is pressed against the contact part 3, whereby enhancement of convenience for the patient can be ~~contrived~~ achieved.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 3 of page 38 with the following amended paragraph.*

Next, the blood sugar level thus calculated is displayed on the display part 12 (step S109 in Fig. 6). This makes it possible to ~~grasp~~ know the blood sugar level.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning in line 8 of page 39 with the following amended paragraph.*

In addition, such accidents as erroneously piercing the living body surface again after piercing once are prevented from occurring, and safety is high. Moreover, since the piercing needle 14 is cannot be seen directly, the sensation of fear at the time of piercing is alleviated.